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4) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NEXABIT NETWORKS INC. [US/US]; 200 Nickerson Road, Marlborough, MA 01752 (US).

5) Inventors; and
5) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): OPALKA, Zbigiew [US/US]; 25 Quarry Lane, Harvard, MA 01451 (US). AGARWAL, Vijay [US/US]; 25 Langeler Lane, Marlborough, MA 01752 (US). KONG, Thomas [US/US]; 175 Freeman Street, Brookline, MA 02146 (US). FIRTH, Christopher [US/US]; 28 John Alden Circle, Bellingham, MA 02019 (US). COSTANTINO, Carl [US/US]; 7 Nutfield Drive, Londonderry, NH 03053 (US).

6) Agent: RINES, Robert, Harvey, MacLeod Alkorn, Bledington Grounds, Bledington, Gloucestershire OX7 6XL (GB).

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7) Title: NETWORKING SYSTEMS

8) Abstract

A novel networking architecture and technique for transmitting both cells and packets or frames across a common switch fabric, effected, at least in part, by utilizing a common set of algorithms for the forwarding engine (the ingress side) and a common set of modules for the QoS management (the egress part) that are provided for each I/O module to process packet/cell information without affecting the correct operation of ATM switching and without transforming packets into cells for transfer across the switch fabric.

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